



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
**Department of Health Services**



**SANDRA SHEWRY**  
Director

**ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**  
Governor

December 23, 2004

To: Newborn Screening Providers

Subject: Newborn Screening Fee Increase

This letter is to inform you that consistent with the legislative discussions, which resulted in the expansion of the statewide Newborn Screening Program, the Department will increase the newborn screening fee to \$77 per completed test panel effective starting with newborns whose newborn screening specimen is drawn on January 1, 2005. The change will be reflected by regulation R-12-04E. Copies of the regulation may be obtained from the Office of Regulations.

California Department of Health Services  
Office of Regulations  
Mail Stop 0015  
P.O. Box 997413  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

The change will be reflected in the billing by adjustment of the existing CPT Codes as follows:

Phenylalanine	CPT 84030	\$15.40
Tyrosine	CPT 84510	\$15.40
Transferase	CPT 82776	\$15.40
Thyroid Stimulating Hormone	CPT 84443	\$15.40
Hemoglobin Chromatography	CPT 83021	\$15.40

The Department will still charge \$1 for each test request form ordered. Hospitals cannot charge more than the regulated fee, but they can charge up to \$6 for blood collection. The increased fees are being collected in advance of actual addition of the tandem

mass spectrometry and congenital adrenal hyperplasia screening in order to offset the startup cost.

The Department is making good progress toward our goal of initiation of expanded testing and will meet the legislatively assigned deadline of August 1, 2005. In the interim, we continue to encourage you to offer and recommend supplemental screening using one of the commercial laboratories listed below:

Baylor:	1-800-4BAYLOR <a href="http://www.bhcs.com/MedicalSpecialities/MetabolicDisease">www.bhcs.com/MedicalSpecialities/MetabolicDisease</a>
Mayo:	1-800-533-1710 <a href="http://www.mayoreferenceservices.org/mml/mmi-sns-intro.asp">www.mayoreferenceservices.org/mml/mmi-sns-intro.asp</a>
Pediatrix:	1-866-463-6436 <a href="http://www.pediatrixscreening.com">www.pediatrixscreening.com</a>

Information on expanded screening is available from our website ([www.dhs.ca.gov/gdb](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/gdb) - click on newborn screening) and other websites such as:

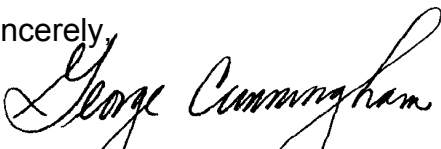
CARES: [www.caresfoundations.org](http://www.caresfoundations.org)

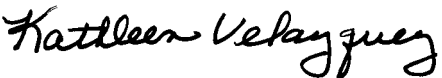
Alliance for Genetic Disorders: [www.geneticalliance.org](http://www.geneticalliance.org)

Star G Project: [www.newbornscreening.info](http://www.newbornscreening.info)

If you have any questions regarding the fee increase, please contact Leslie Gaffney at [lgaffney@dhs.ca.gov](mailto:lgaffney@dhs.ca.gov) or (510) 412-1460. Thank you for your continued support of the California Newborn Screening Program.

Sincerely,

  
George Cunningham, M.D., M.P.H., Chief  
Genetic Disease Branch

  
Kathleen Velazquez, M.P.H., Chief  
Newborn Screening Section  
Genetic Disease Branch

cc: Kris Calvin, MA, American Academy of Pediatrics  
Tracey St. Julian, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
Barbara Glaser, California Healthcare Association  
Leanne Gassaway, California Association of Health Care Plans  
Anne Eowan, Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies